

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A radio resource control unit which monitors air interface resources and provides an output for radio resource management; the control unit comprising:
an air interface measurement unit, for obtaining air interface measurements;
a storage unit for storing said air interface measurements;
a processing unit, for processing said air interface measurements to provide said output;
whereby at least a portion of said air interface measurements are predicted measurements.
2. The control unit of claim 1 whereby at least a portion of said air interface measurements are actual measurements.
3. The control unit of claim 2, whereby actual measurements and predicted measurements are selectively combined by said processing unit.
4. The control unit of claim 1, whereby said storage unit also stores a timestamp for each stored air interface measurement, said timestamp corresponding to the time which said air interface measurement was stored.
5. A method for obtaining radio resource management data comprising:
obtaining air interface measurements;
storing said air interface measurements;
generating and storing a timestamp indicative of the time each air interface measurement is stored; and
processing said air interface measurements to provide output data;
whereby at least a portion of said air interface measurements are predicted values.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein said processing step determines whether an air interface measurement is valid by comparing the corresponding timestamp with a threshold, and if said timestamp is older than said air interface threshold then said air interface measurement is declared invalid.

7. The method of claim 5, wherein said processing step:
determines the occurrence of a transient period; and
determines whether an air interface measurement is valid by comparing the timestamp of the air interface measurement to the occurrence of the transient period, and if said timestamp is within said transient period then said air interface measurement is declared invalid.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein said determination is performed when said air interface measurement is stored, and a corresponding validity indicator is also stored with said air interface measurement.

9. The method of claim 5, wherein said output data comprises default value.

10. The method of claim 5, wherein said output data comprises a combination of predicted values and actual data.